

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 405

By Wilder

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Senator Sidney Chism on the occasion of his departure as a member of the Senate of the 104th General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor our colleagues who, in their time among us in elective office, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Senator Sidney Chism of Memphis is one such estimable person who has served with distinction while filling the seat for the 33rd Senatorial district vacated by Senator Roscoe Dixon in January 2005; elected by the Shelby County Commission to fill the vacancy, he will be turning the seat over to Senator-elect Kathryn Bowers, winner of a special election; and

WHEREAS, born February 10, 1940, in Memphis, Senator Chism attended the University of Tennessee and the State Technical Institute at Memphis and is certified as a First Class Engineer in Steam/Refrigeration; he has been a contractor for 35 years and served as an Engineer for the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company from 1971-73; and

WHEREAS, highly active as a union member, Sidney Chism was President of Teamsters Local 1196 from 1981-95, organizer for the Southern Conference of Teamsters from 1984-94, Chairman of the Anheuser-Busch Grievance Committee for the United States and Canada from 1988-94, Chairman of Stroh's Grievance Committee from 1988-94, an officer in the IBT Brewer Conference from 1985-94 and President of the Teamsters Joint Council 87 from 1986-95; and

WHEREAS, a stalwart in Democratic politics, Senator Chism was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1992 and served as Chairman of the Shelby County Democratic Party in 1993-94; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in Memphis area business and civic life, Sidney Chism is President and CEO of S & L, Inc., a Board Member of United American Bank, a Board Member of "Leadership Memphis" in 1995-96, a Board Member of the Black United Fund of Memphis, a member of the Land Use and Control Board and a Board Member of the Junior Golf Association; and

WHEREAS, a devout member of Mt. Joyner Missionary Baptist Church, Senator Chism is married and is the father of four adult children; now retired, he enjoys golfing, hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, Senator Chism has rendered valuable and effective service as Secretary of the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee and as a member of the Senate Government Operations Committee; and

WHEREAS, known for his friendliness and affability, Sidney Chism is well-regarded and respected on both sides of the aisle; and

WHEREAS, throughout his brief but estimable legislative career, Senator Chism has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues in the Senate, as well as in the House of Representatives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to our dear friend and colleague, Senator Sidney Chism, a fond farewell, but not goodbye, and our heartfelt wishes for every continued success in all his future endeavors and much happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.